Res. 11.2/2 (Cg-XV) – AMENDMENT TO THE PREAMBLE OF THE CONVENTION

THE CONGRESS:

Considering the success and the achievements of WMO in its existence since it was established in 1950;

Considering further the need to have a basic document which reflects and makes clear the scope and responsibilities of the Organization and the understanding which the Members have of their Organization;

Considering the fact that WMO is the United Nations Specialized Agency responsible for meteorology;

Considering further that WMO, along with other agencies and programmes of the United Nations and other international organizations, each within the framework of its own mandate, is responsible for relevant aspects of hydrology, climate and environment;

Noting the Geneva Declaration adopted by the Members participating in the Thirteenth Congress, 4 to 26 May 1999, (annex to paragraph 7.2.14 of the general summary of the *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Thirteenth World Meteorological Congress*);

Decides:

That the text of the CONSIDERATA of the Convention

> "With a view to coordinating, standardizing and improving world meteorological and related activities, and to encouraging an efficient exchange of meteorological and related information between countries in the aid of human activities, the contracting States agree to the present Convention, as follows"
>
> shall be replaced by the following new preamble:

*"**Considering** the need for sustainable development, the reduction of loss of life and property caused by natural disasters and other catastrophic events related to weather, climate and water, as well as safeguarding the environment and the global climate for present and future generations of humankind;*

***Recognizing** the importance of an integrated international system for the observation, collection, processing and dissemination of meteorological, hydrological and related data and products;*

***Reaffirming** the vital importance of the mission of the National Meteorological, Hydrometeorological and Hydrological Services in observing and understanding weather and climate and in providing meteorological, hydrological and related services in support of relevant national needs which should include the following areas:*

- *(a) Protection of life and property;*
- *(b) Safeguarding the environment;*
- *(c) Contributing to sustainable development;*
- *(d) Promoting long term observation and collection of meteorological, hydrological and climatological data, including related environmental data;*
- *(e) Promotion of endogenous capacity building;*
- *(f) Meeting international commitments; and*
- *(g) Contributing to international cooperation;*

Recognizing *also that Members need to work together to coordinate, standardize, improve and encourage efficiencies in the exchange of meteorological, climatological, hydrological and related information between them, in the aid of human activities;*

Considering *that meteorology is best coordinated at the international level by one responsible international organization;*

Considering *further the need for a close cooperation with other international organizations also working in the areas of hydrology, climate and environment;*

The contracting States agree to the present Convention, as follows:"

Further decides that these amendments, which do not create new obligations and which are adopted in accordance with article 28 (c) of the Convention, shall come into force on 1 June 2007.